Docket No.: 44085-169 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Shoji IMAIZUMI, et al.

Serial No.: Divisional of : Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Application No. 09/346,276

Filed: August 11, 2003 : Examiner: To be assigned

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop NEW APPLICATIONS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.